

REMARKS

Claims 2-11, 17-28, and 30-45 are canceled via the request for filing a Divisional application under 37 CFR 1.53(b) of pending prior application U.S. Application Serial No. 09/571,078, filed on May 15, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,620,783, issued on September 16, 2003, which is a continuation in part (CIP) application of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/028,327 filed February 24, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,130,064, issued October 10, 2000, the contents all of which are hereby incorporated by reference herein. These claims are canceled to reduce the cost of filing this application.

Applicants submit that these claims were included in the application as filed in the interest of providing notice to the public of certain specific subject matter intended to be claimed, and have been canceled in the interest of reducing filing costs. Applicants expressly state that these claims are not being canceled for reasons related to patentability, and are in fact fully supported by the specification as filed. Applicants expressly reserve the right to reinstate these claims, to add other claims during prosecution of this application, or to file these canceled claims in a subsequent continuation or divisional application. Applicants expressly do not disclaim the subject matter of any invention disclosed herein which is not set forth in the instantly filed claims.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the present application is fully in condition for allowance, and request that the Examiner withdraw the outstanding objections/rejections. Early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.


If the Examiner contemplates other action, or if a telephone conference would expedite allowance of the claims, Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Applicants believe that no fee is due with this communication. However, if the USPTO determines that a fee is due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. **09-0108**.

Respectfully submitted,

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